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Mr. Irwin's Field Trips

A Reading A-Z Read-Aloud Book
R-controlled I • Word Count: 459




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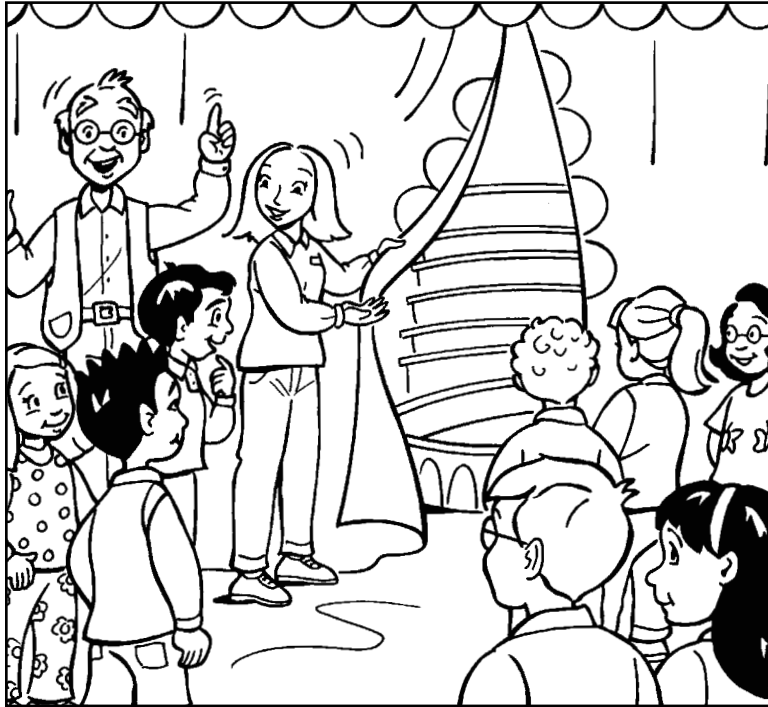
Mr. Irwin's Field Trips



Written by Dolores Kleinholz
Illustrated by Nora Voutas

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WORDS USED IN THIS BOOK

High-frequency words:

1-100 a, about, an, and, are, at, but, from, get, he, her, him, his, I, in, it, like, make, me, not, of, on, one, said, see, she, so, some, the, their, them, they, to, up, us, was, we, what, where, with, you

101-200 here, into, run, saw, then, under, want, went, yes

R-controlled /i/ words:

Afternoon, Irwin, turtle, perhaps, remember, disturb, observe, sir, thirteen, first-graders, burst, teacher, hurried, after, squirmy, worm, under, Ernesto, heard, mockingbird, chirping, Christopher, squirrel, Ginger, water, wonder, murmured, over, murky, surface, Kirk, Walter, hurling, surprised, jerked, later, emerged, leathery, perched, purple, shirt, better, blurted, Thursday, circus, girl, curtain, together, stern, learn, work(ing), eagerly, squirted, headfirst, silver, stirrups, circle(d), dancers, fur, whirled, jugglers, twirled, banners, thirsty, turn(ed), U-turn, entered, announcer, return, laughter, Shirley, her, hurt, nervous, concerned, dirty

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One afternoon, Mr. Irwin took his class on a field trip to Turtle Lake. “Perhaps we’ll see some wildlife,” Mr. Irwin said. “But remember, we mustn’t disturb the animals. We are here to observe, not disturb!”

“Yes, sir, Mr. Irwin!” thirteen first-graders replied. They burst from the bus, and their teacher hurried after them.

“I found a squirmy worm under a rock!” Ernesto said.

“I heard a mockingbird chirping at us!” Christopher said.

“I saw a squirrel run up a fir tree!” Ginger said.

Mr. Irwin walked to the edge of Turtle Lake and peered into the water.

“I wonder if there really are any turtles in Turtle Lake,” he murmured. He leaned over the murky surface of the lake.





Just then, Kirk and Walter began hurling rocks into the water. The rocks made huge splashes. They surprised Mr. Irwin. He jerked and fell into Turtle Lake with a huge SPLASH!

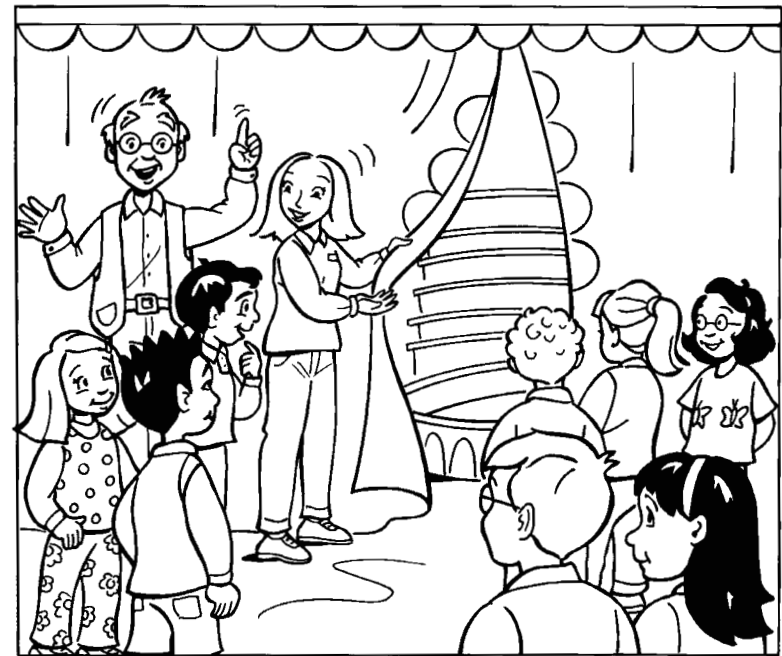
A few seconds later, Mr. Irwin emerged from the water with a leathery turtle perched on his purple shirt.

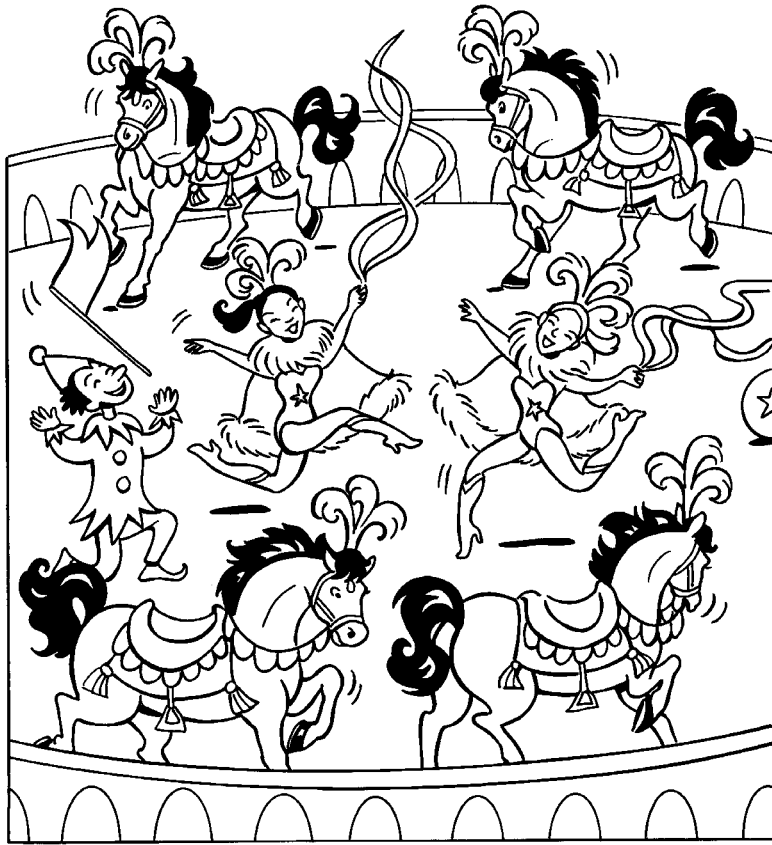
“Mr. Irwin, you better put the turtle back,” thirteen first-graders blurted. “Remember, we’re here to observe, not disturb!” They giggled at their soggy teacher.

The next Thursday, Mr. Irwin took his class on a field trip to the circus. The girl taking the tickets pulled the heavy curtain aside and showed them where to sit.

“Stay together, class. I don’t want anyone to get lost,” Mr. Irwin said, looking stern. “Perhaps we’ll learn about working in a circus.”

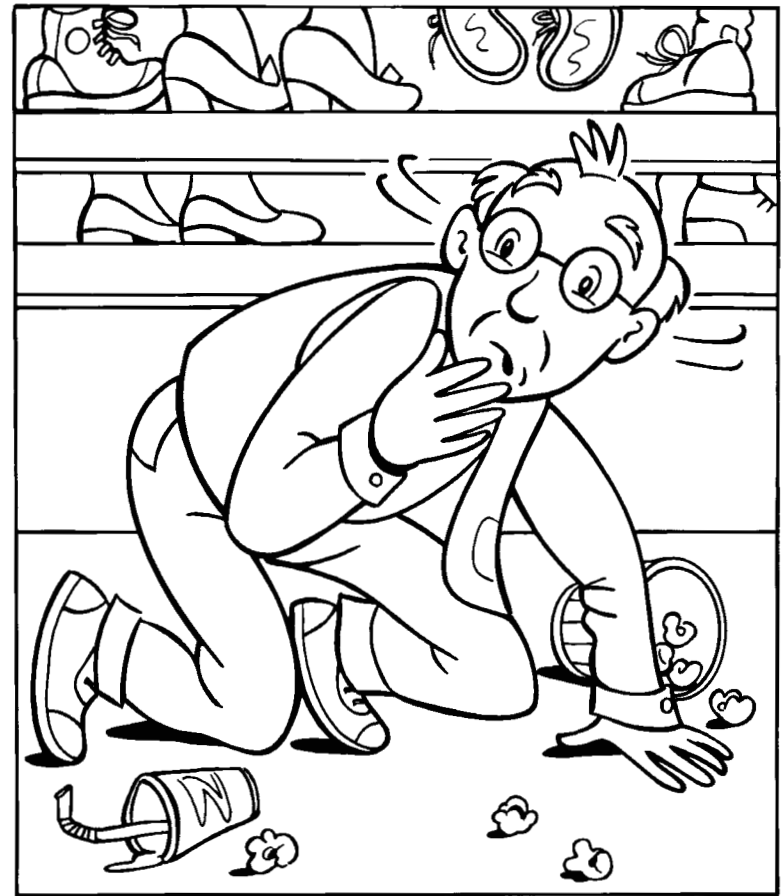
“Yes sir, Mr. Irwin!” thirteen first-graders eagerly replied.





The circus show began! A clown squirted water at the crowd and then dove headfirst into a barrel of bubbles. Horses with silver saddles and stirrups paraded in a circle. Dancers in fur capes leaped and whirled. Jugglers tossed and twirled banners. The children clapped and cheered.

After a while, the children got very thirsty. Mr. Irwin went to get them some cold drinks. He climbed over and under a bench, turned right, then left, took a U-turn and, after becoming totally confused about where he was, entered the circus arena!

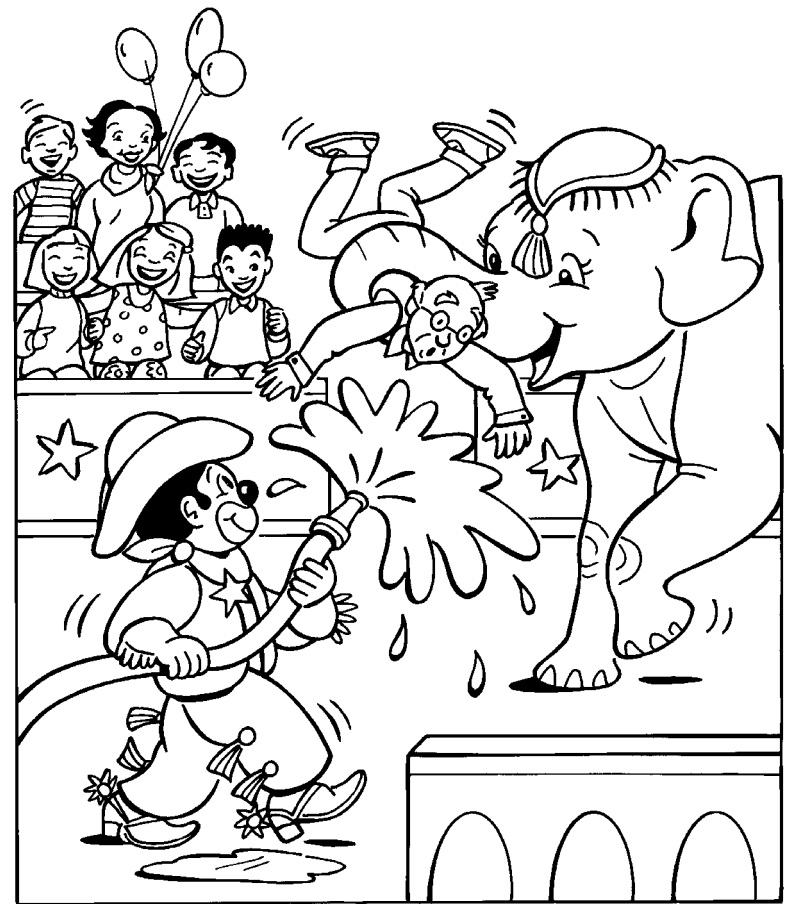




“Oh dear, perhaps I made a wrong turn,” murmured Mr. Irwin.

The announcer asked Mr. Irwin to return to his seat immediately.

The clowns squirted Mr. Irwin’s purple shirt with water and the crowd roared with laughter. An elephant named Shirley gently circled her trunk around Mr. Irwin so she wouldn’t hurt him. She carried him to his seat.





“Mr. Irwin, what was it like to work in the circus?” thirteen first-graders asked excitedly.

“Elephants make me nervous. Perhaps I’ll remain a teacher,” Mr. Irwin said, looking concerned about his dirty purple shirt.

The following afternoon, Mr. Irwin took his thirteen first-graders on the field trip he enjoyed the most. The library!

